

New Delhi: 8 July 2009

**Dear Prime Minister Manmohan Singh,**

Today you are meeting with world leaders at the G8+5 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy, to discuss the climate crisis, food shortages and the global economy. This meeting is a critical step towards success at COP15 in Copenhagen in December 2009.

**We call on you to show leadership at the G8+5 Summit by agreeing that global warming must not exceed the critical threshold of 2 degrees C.**

This is an important step towards recognizing the severity of the climate crisis and beginning to take measures commensurate to the challenge. Scientists warn that if global warming rises past two degrees centigrade, the world's climate systems are very likely to spin out of control. We cannot allow this to happen.

So far your Government is seen as blocking agreement on a 2 degrees goal. **As Indians we wish to see our Government take a lead on climate change.** This must begin with an acknowledgement of the science and the urgency of action by all.

India is already the fourth largest emitter of greenhouse gases and projected to be among the top three by 2015. This is an issue that affects us and our future. The poverty in our India must be used as the reason for a green transformation of our economy, not as an excuse for delaying action on climate change.

**We call on you to agree to a 2 degree C limit on global warming at the G8+5.**

We will work to support a Global Deal at Copenhagen that is:

**AMBITIOUS:** enough to leave a planet safe for us all.

**FAIR:** for the poorest communities and countries that are and will suffer the most.

**BINDING:** with real targets that can be legally monitored and enforced.

***Signed by 2021 Indians across the country in under 24 hours.***

**Ricken Patel**

Co-Founder & Executive Director (Canada)

Avaaz.org

**Malini Mehra**

Founder & CEO

Centre for Social Markets (CSM)

## About the organisers



**Avaaz.org** is a community of 3.5 million global citizens -- including over 80,000 Indians -- who take action on the major issues facing the world today. The aim of Avaaz.org is to ensure that the views and values of the world's people shape global decisions. Avaaz.org members act for a more just and peaceful world and a globalization with a human face.

[www.avaaz.org](http://www.avaaz.org)



The **Centre for Social Markets** (CSM) is an Indian NGO working to promote sustainability and climate leadership since 2000. Full details can be found at: [www.csmworld.org](http://www.csmworld.org)

In 2007, CSM launched the award-winning **Climate Challenge India** initiative, the country's first independent, non-partisan, non-political national mobilization effort on climate change. Climate Challenge India seeks to raise awareness of climate impact and opportunities and build a strong, pro-active domestic leadership agenda for the country. CSM also hosts the country's first Portal on India and climate change at: [www.climatechallengeindia.org](http://www.climatechallengeindia.org)